

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
9 September 2005 (09.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/082173 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A23L 3/00**

(74) Agent: **ROCK, Olaf, Colin**; Rock and Company, Trelawn,
The Green, Cassington, Witney OX29 4DN (GB).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2005/000761

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US (patent), UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date: 28 February 2005 (28.02.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0404299.0 26 February 2004 (26.02.2004) GB

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*):
ZINETEC LTD [GB/GB]; 15 Palace Street, Norwich
NR3 1RT (GB).

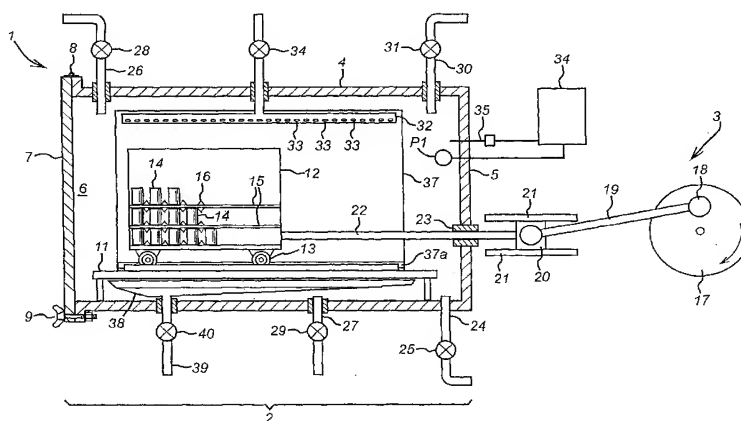
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **WALDEN, Richard**
[GB/GB]; Zinetec Ltd, 22 Highworth Road, Faringdon
SN7 7EE (GB). **FERGUSON, Robin, Julian** [GB/GB];
Zinetec Ltd, 22 Highworth Road, Faringdon SN7 7EE
(GB).

Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IMPROVED CAN PROCESSING



(57) Abstract: In a first aspect the invention comprises an apparatus for heat-treating products, comprising: a retort into which the products to be treated are receivable; heating means for heating the retort; coolant spray means for spraying a liquid coolant onto products received in the retort; and shielding means to substantially prevent coolant sprayed from the coolant spray means from impinging on the interior of the retort. In a further aspect the invention comprises a method of protecting a retort comprising a retort wall defining a volume into which products to be treated are receivable, heating means for heating the retort, and coolant spray means for spraying a liquid coolant onto products received in the retort against thermal shock, the method comprising mounting shielding apparatus within the retort to substantially prevent liquid coolant sprayed from the coolant spray means within the retort from impinging on the interior of the retort wall.

WO 2005/082173 A3



— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

17 November 2005